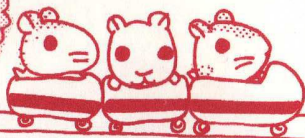


The Adventures
of
Hamtaro

A Home for Hamtaro & Other Stories

Stories & Pictures by **Ritsuko Kawai**

HAM-HAM FUN PARK



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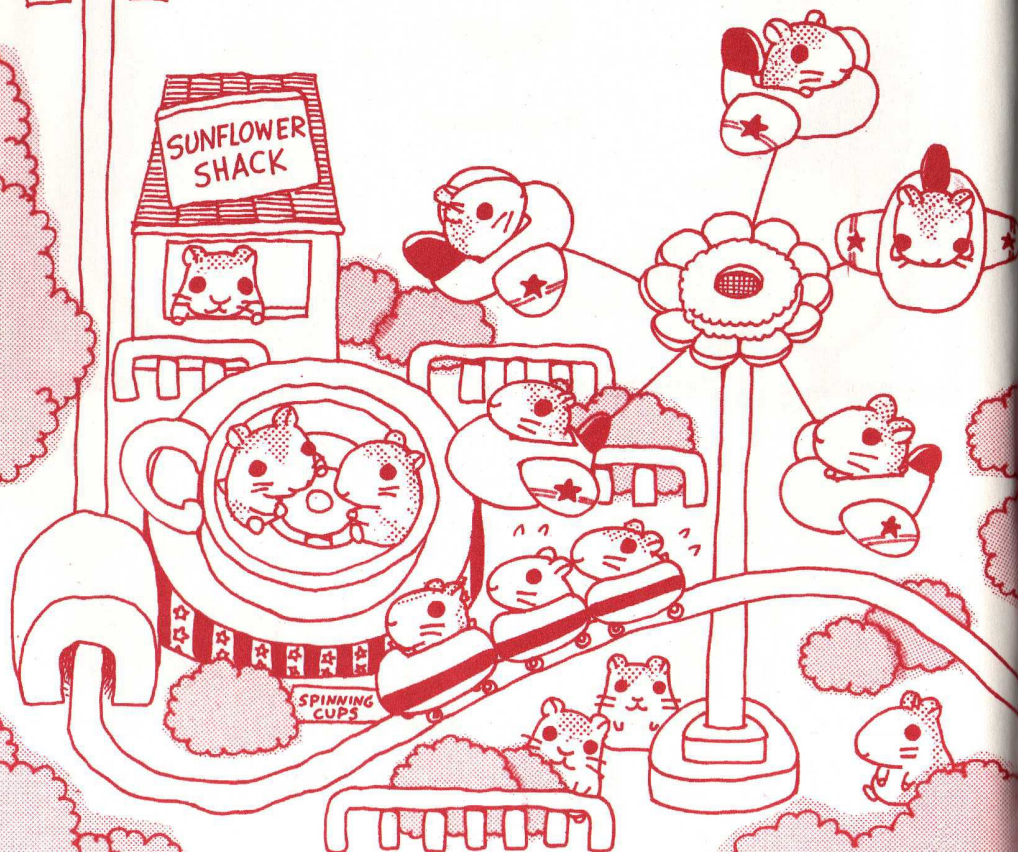


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Stories & Pictures by
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A Home for Hamtaro

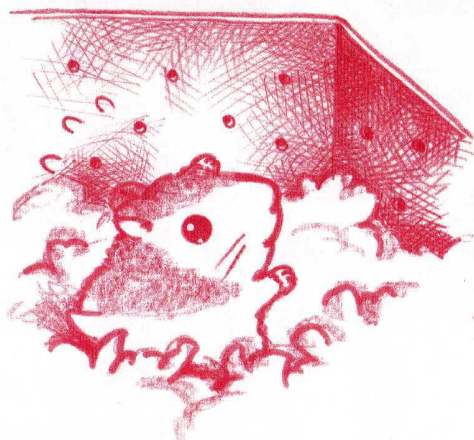
ookyoo
ookwee



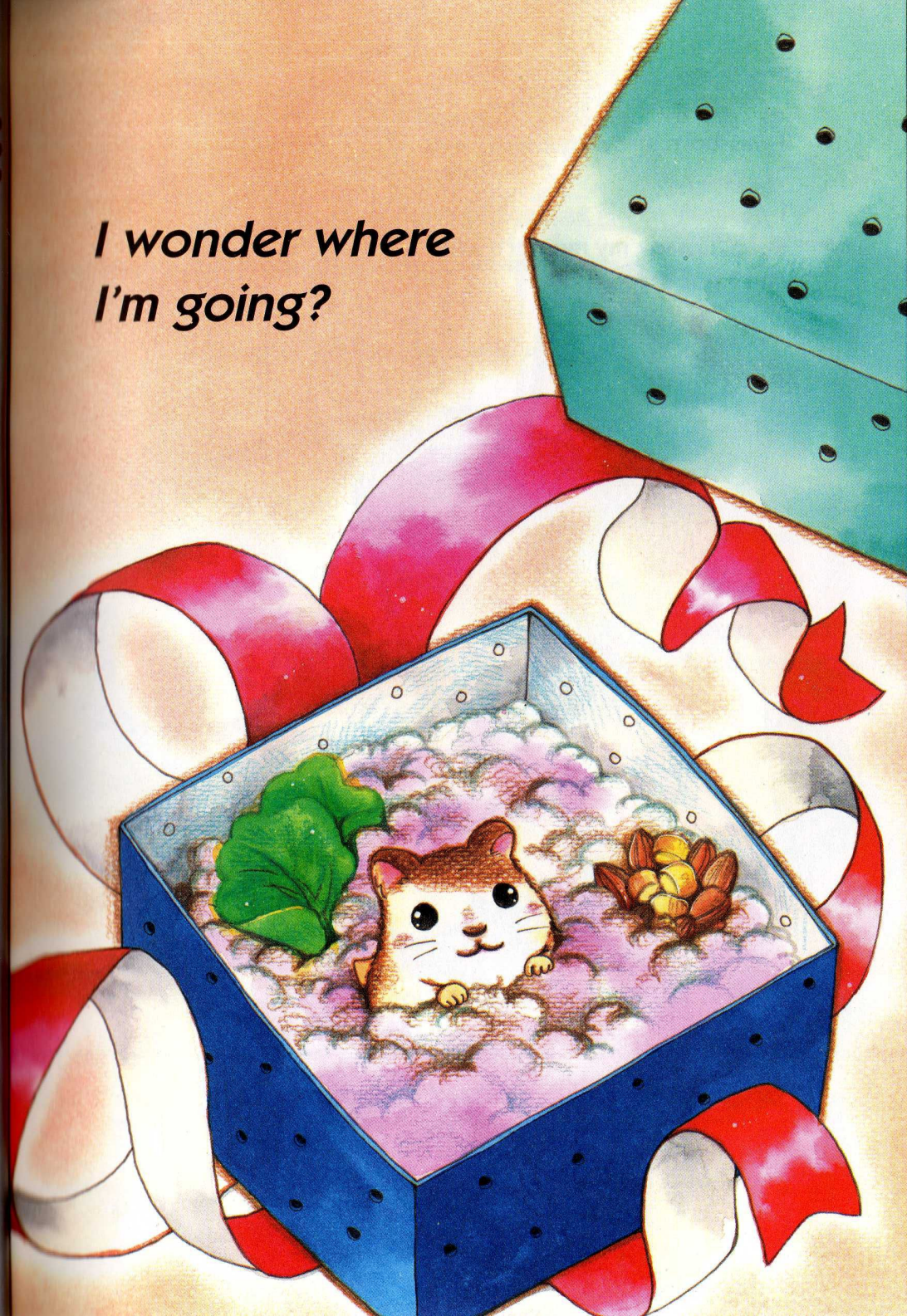
One day, I was taken from my home.

I was put in a little box with holes in it. I was all alone. I was going somewhere I had never been before.

At first, I was scared. But I got used to the box pretty quickly.

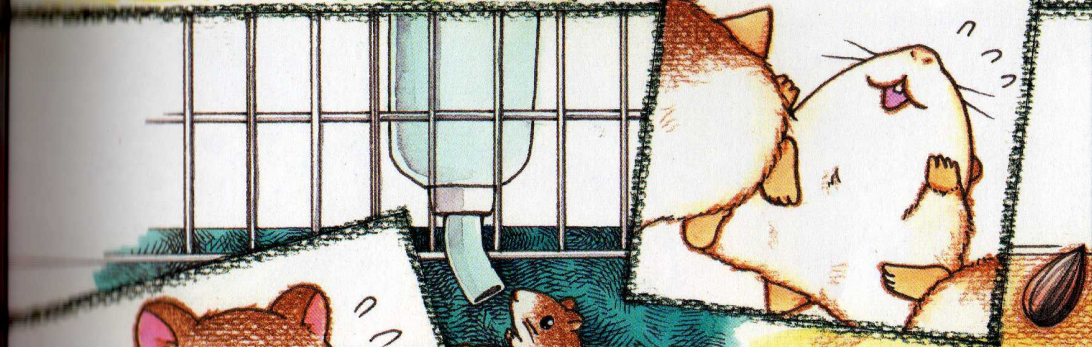
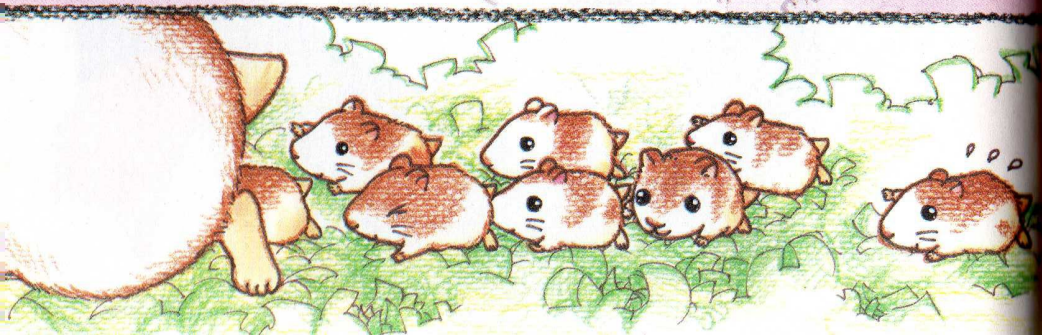


*I wonder where
I'm going?*



I was born just a little while ago.

I was only as big as a sunflower seed.
I drank my mother's milk
and I got bigger.



I tripped and
fell down a lot.



When I was big enough to shell a sunflower seed,
I was ready to leave home.

I was big enough to take care of myself.

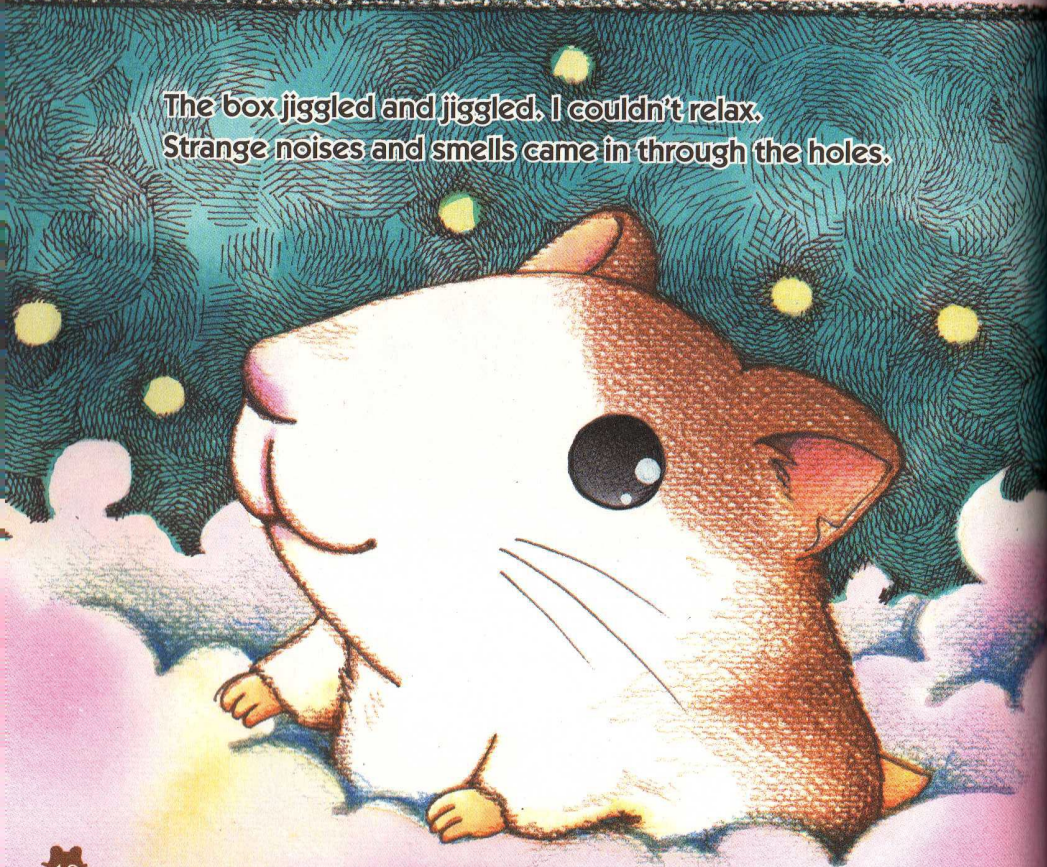
So...



...there I was inside that box. All by myself.



The box jiggled and jiggled. I couldn't relax.
Strange noises and smells came in through the holes.



What exciting new sounds!
What exciting new scents!

Finally, I drifted off to sleep.

KLATTER

WHISTLE

SLAM

**TICK-TOCK
TICK-TOCK**

HONK

SCREECH

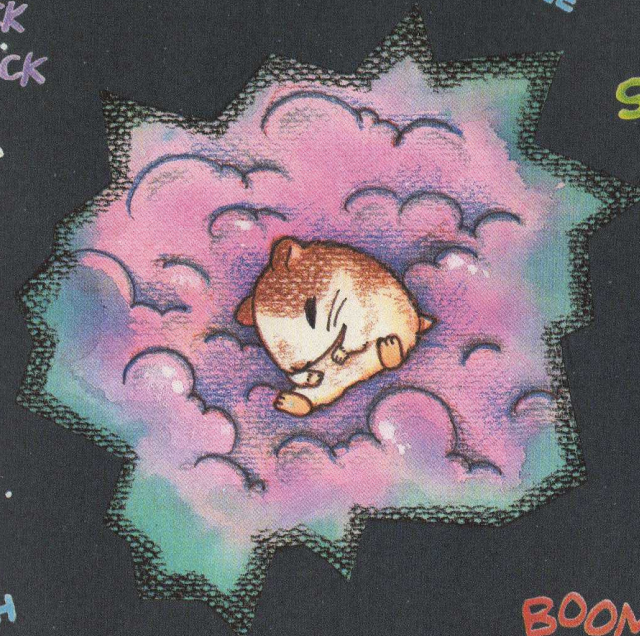
**BOOM
BOOM**

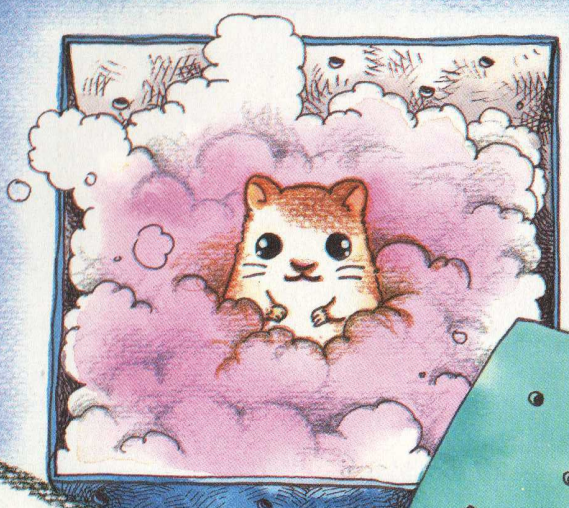
**KNOCK
KNOCK**

SWISH

VRODOOM

**RATTLE
RATTLE**





When I woke up, the cover of the box was gone. The inside of the box was bright, and it wasn't jiggling anymore.

This must be my new home!

I wondered if it was safe to climb out. I had the strangest feeling I was being watched.

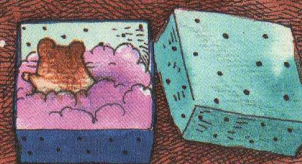
"Thank you, Papa."



I heard a voice.
I saw two people.



Who are these people?



I didn't recognize them.

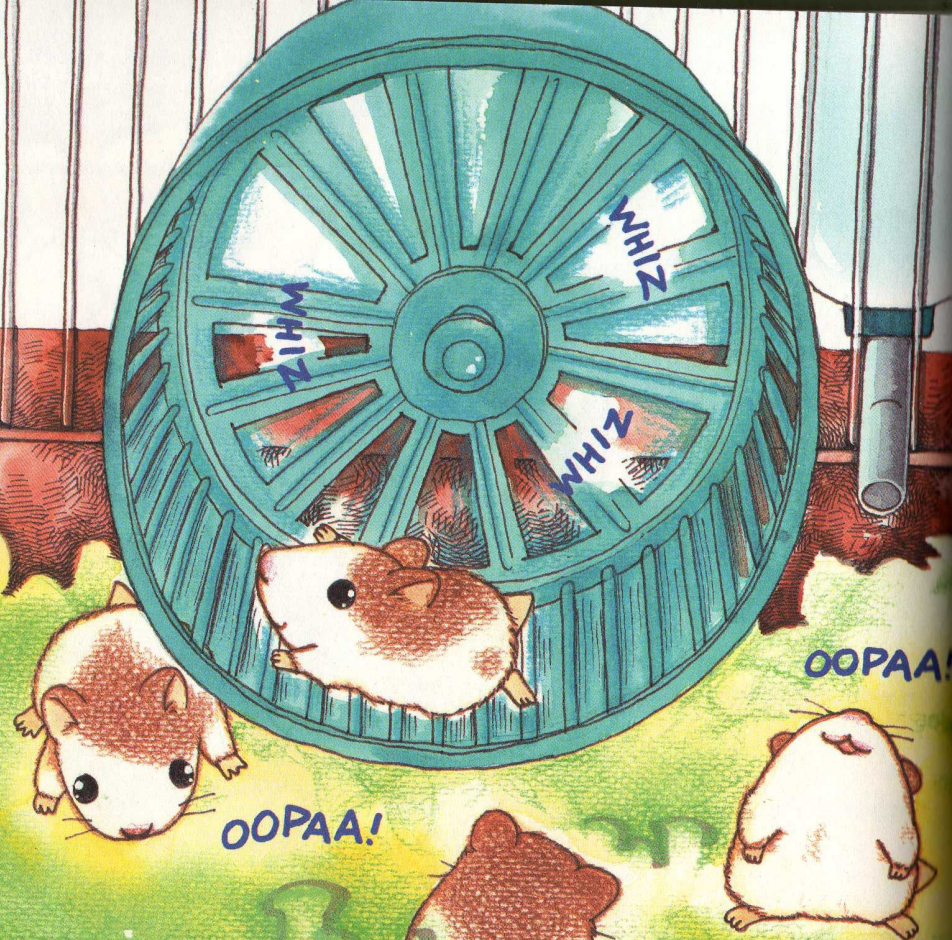
The girl thanked the man for giving me to her.
I was the girl's birthday present!

KUSHI-KUSHI



I bet I'm the cutest present she ever got!♥

A Name for...Who?

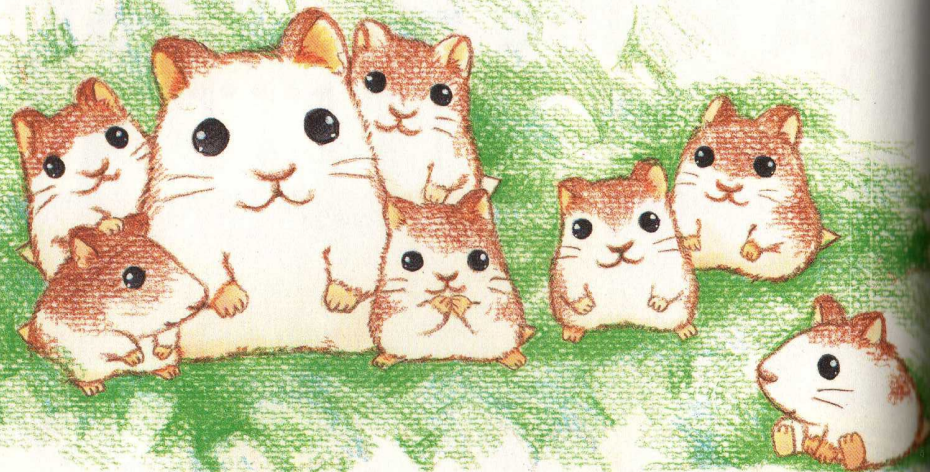


I moved into a new cage.

It was full of strange smells. I didn't feel at home at all.

I was looking forward to being on my own and having my own place, but now I just felt funny.





Maybe it was because I had just been on such a long trip. I felt sleepy, so I curled up into a ball.

Suddenly, I remembered my mother and brothers and sisters. I felt funny without them.



I wasn't used to being on my own.

But I wasn't too worried.

I figured after a good sleep, I would feel better and be ready to play.

And I was!

After a few days...



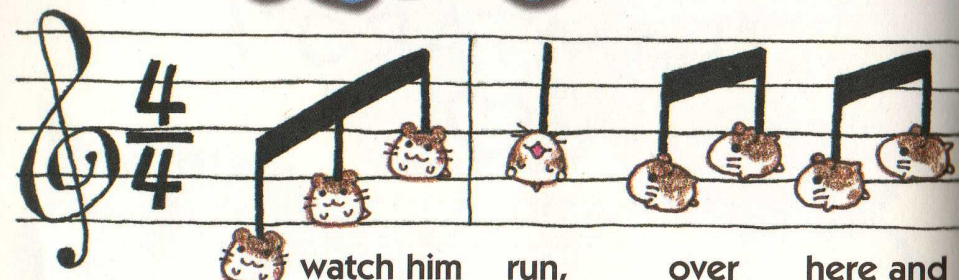
...I noticed something interesting.



MY NAME IS
"HAMTARO"!



HAMTARO'S SONG



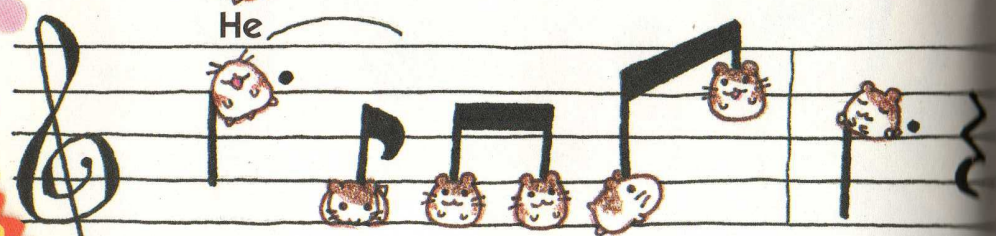
Oh

watch him run, over here and

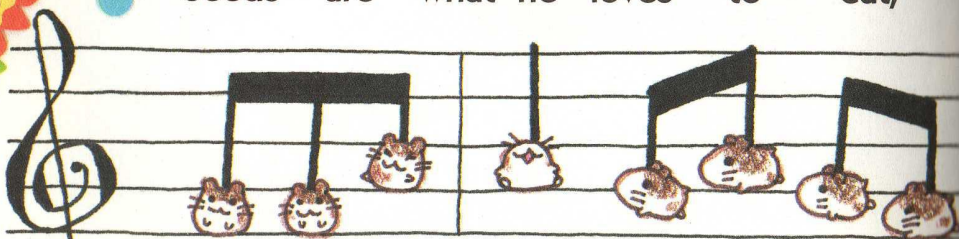


He

runs for fun in small dark pla-



Seeds are what he loves to eat,



Runs from the sun, oh yes he does,



Oh watch him run, over here and there, it's Hamtaro.

He runs for fun in small dark places, my Hamtaro. Seeds are what he loves to eat, oh yummy sunflower seeds. Runs from the sun, oh yes he does, my Hamtaro.



Oh watch him go, round and round and round, it's Hamtaro.

A Whiz Wheel pro, round and round he goes, my Hamtaro. Seeds are what he loves to eat, oh yummy sunflower seeds. He's running so (Where will he go?) my Hamtaro.

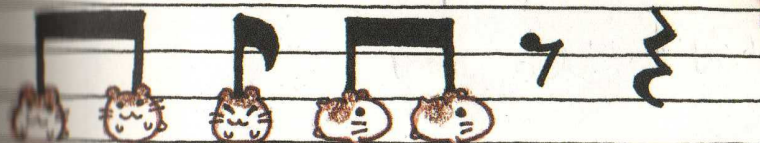


Oh watch him doze, on and on, it's Hamtaro.

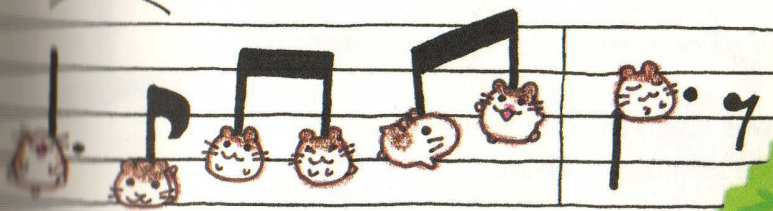
Any place goes, for a little sleepy Hamtaro. Seeds are what he loves to eat, oh yummy sunflower seeds. Oh yes he knows, how to sleep deep, my Hamtaro.



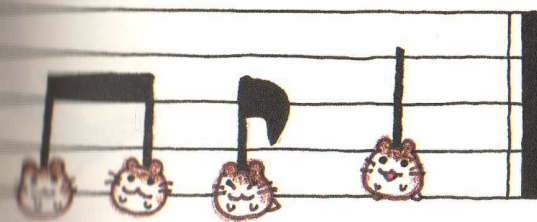
there, it's Ham- ta- ro.



ces, my Ham- ta- ro.



oh yum- my sun- flo- wer seeds.

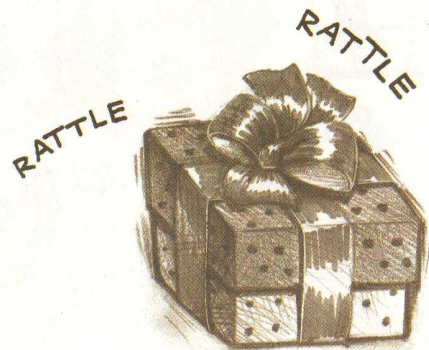


my Ham- ta- ro.



Special thanks to CHIKA. T

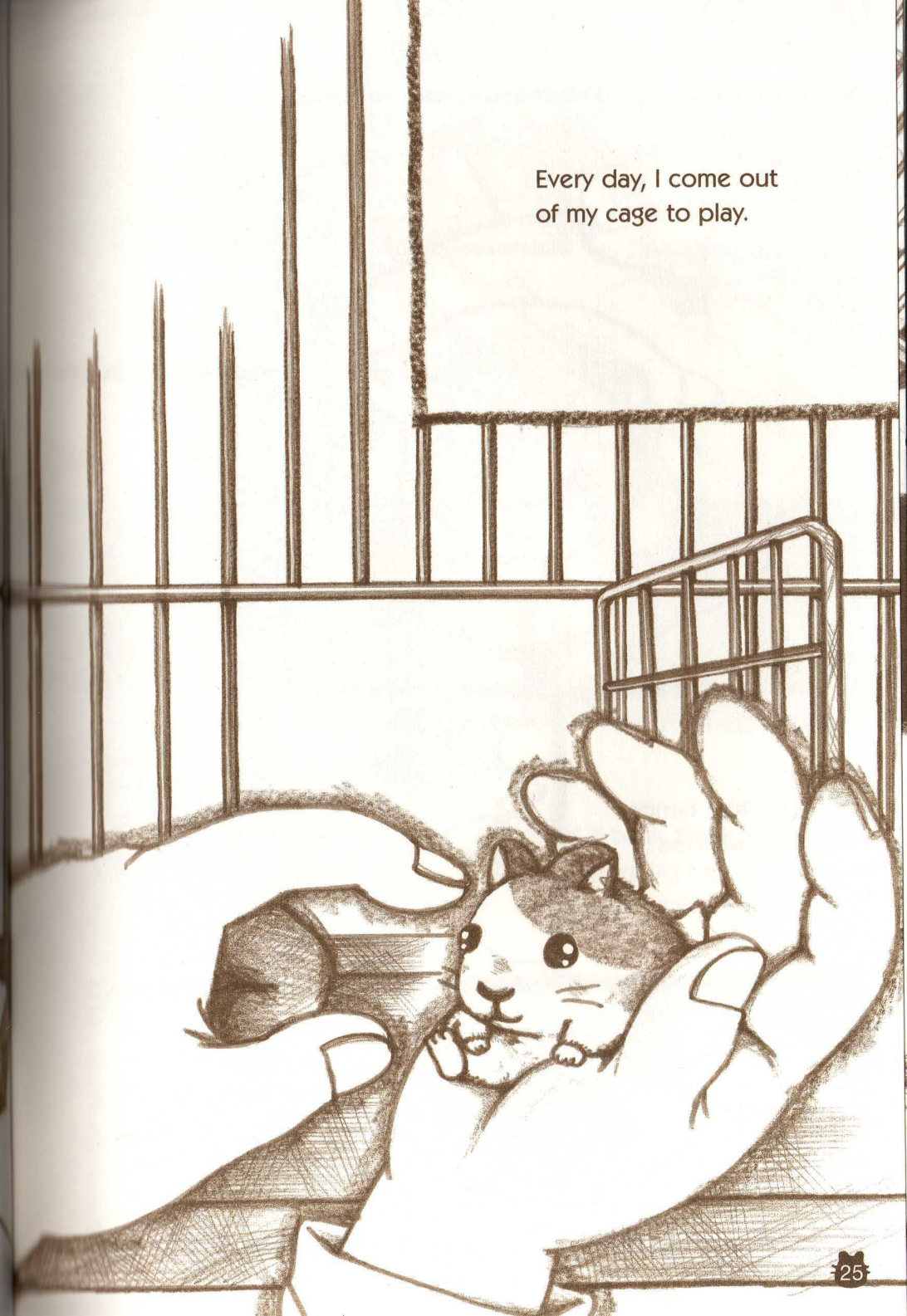
Big Hands, Little Hands



My name is Hamtaro. I'm a hamster.

I was given to a girl by her father
as a birthday present.

Every day, I come out
of my cage to play.

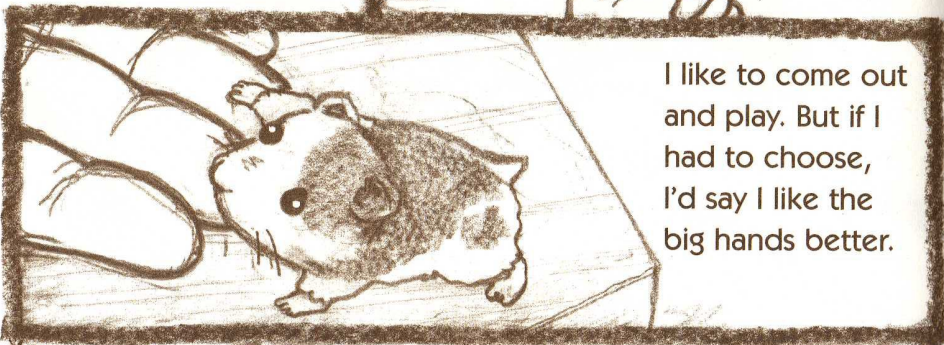




The big hands are nice to sit on.



The little hands play with me.



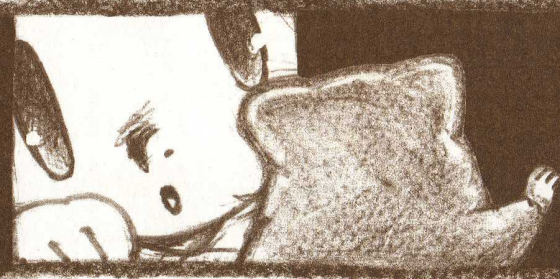
I like to come out and play. But if I had to choose, I'd say I like the big hands better.



One day, I ran away from my cage.



I squeezed through a small opening.



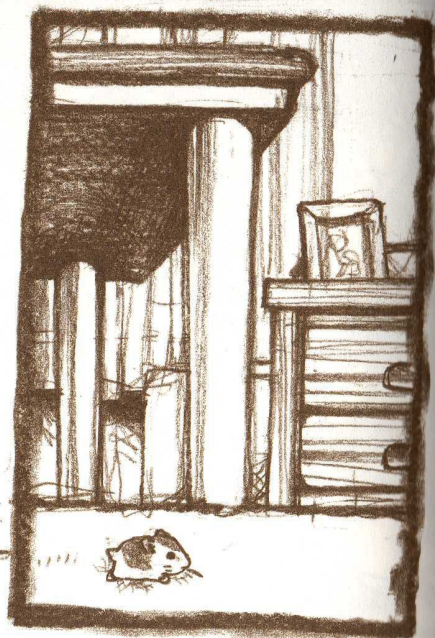
I liked it back there in the dark where no hands could reach me.



COME OUT, HAMTARO
THIS
WA
PLEA
COM



When I woke up, I didn't see the little hand and I didn't hear the little voice. In fact, I didn't see or hear anything.



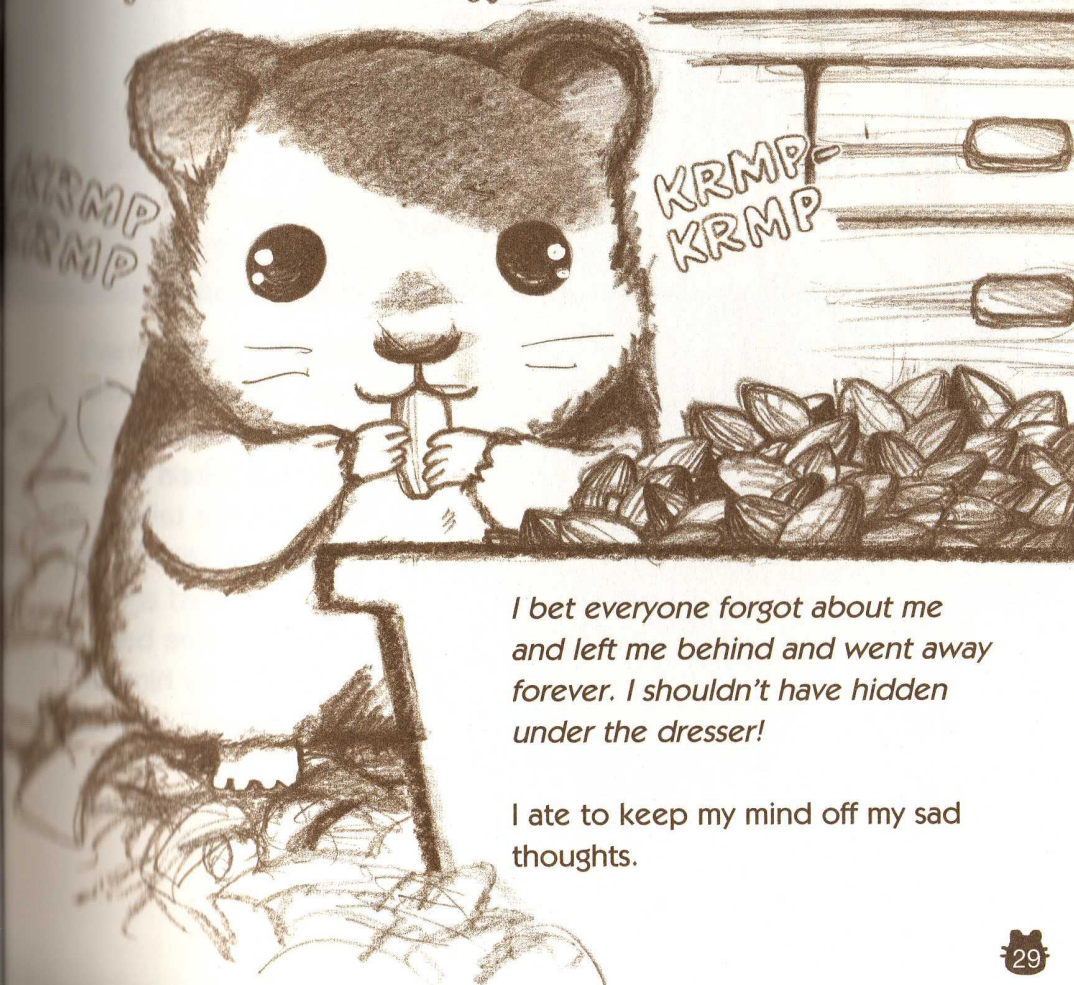
Where is everyone?

I went back to my cage. I was sorry I had run away. There was a new, big pile of sunflower seeds in my cage. I picked one up.



KRMP-
KRMP

KRMP-
KRMP



KRMP-
KRMP

I bet everyone forgot about me and left me behind and went away forever. I shouldn't have hidden under the dresser!

I ate to keep my mind off my sad thoughts.

WHEKE!?

The girl startled me!
I stopped chewing.

P.D.
HAMTARO!
YOU CAME
BACK!

Everyone had come home, because it was the end of the day! The little girl looked extra happy as she talked about me.

"Hamtaro came back to his cage all by himself. Isn't he good? I was so worried all day at school! I ran home as fast as I could!"

I've learned my lesson. I won't run away anymore. Because everyone really cares about me here.

Now, I like the little hands best.



NOW I'LL SHOW YOU HOW
TO HOLD ME SO I FEEL
COMFORTABLE AND SAFE.

WATCH CLOSELY!



When holding a hamster,
cup it gently with both
hands. If the hamster is
afraid to be picked up,
don't force it.

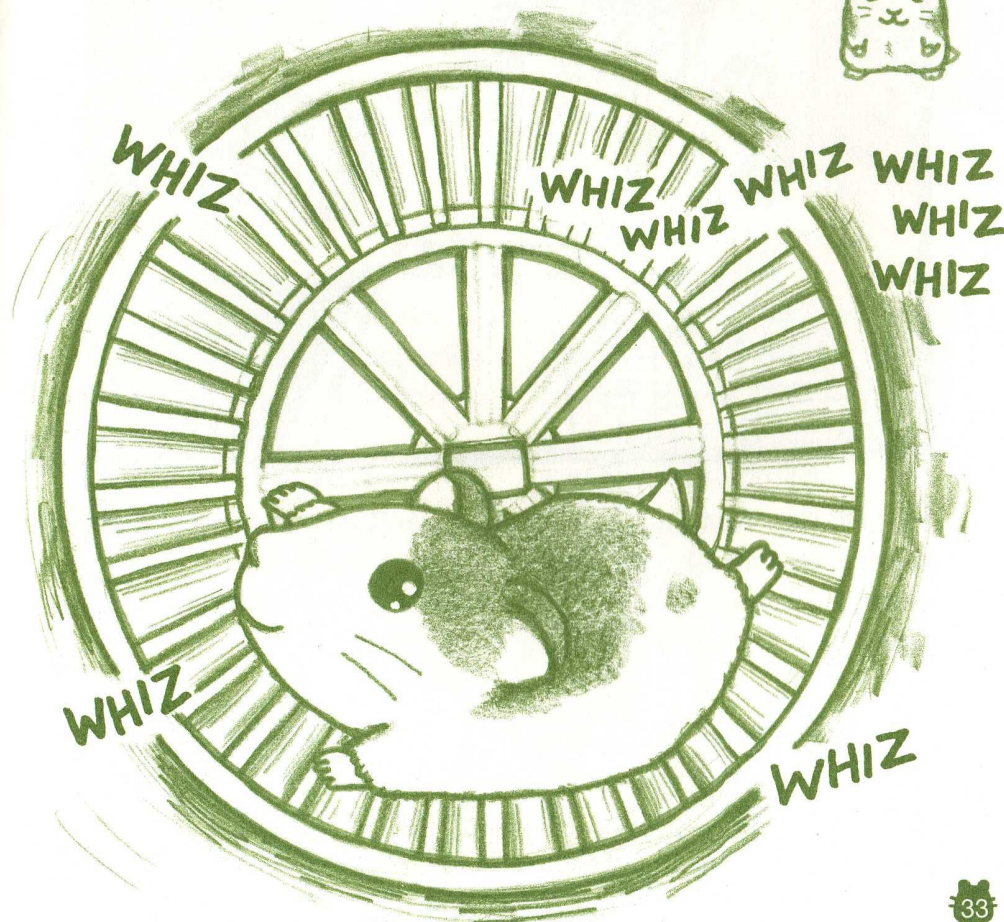


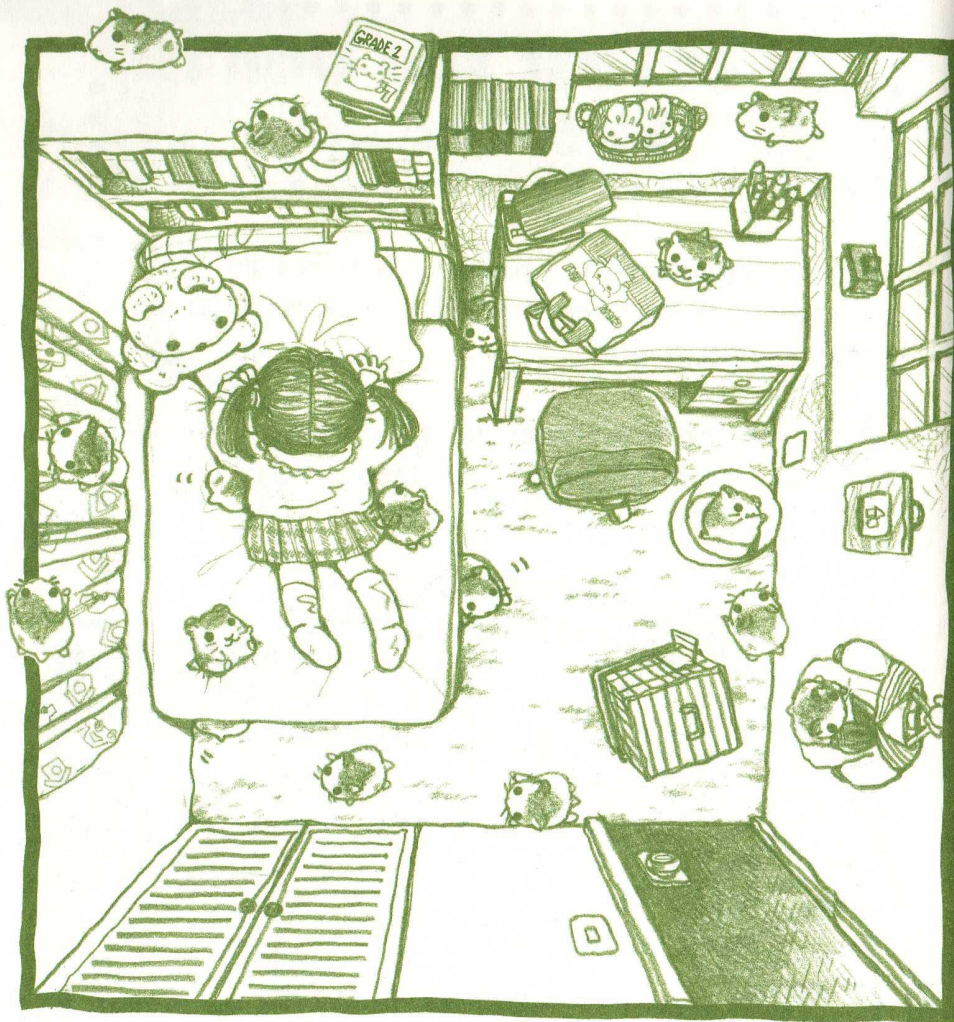
I LOVE CORNERS! ♥

If at First You Don't Succeed...

My name is Hamtaro. I'm a hamster. Yukari is a girl. She's my friend. We play together every day. She picks me up or puts me in her pocket.

When I spin the Whiz Wheel round and round, Yukari tells me what a good hamster I am and I feel proud.





But one day, Yukari didn't play with me when she came home from school.



I wanted to play, so I ran around her room. But she didn't chase me like she usually does.



Yukari was no fun that day.



She just lay face down on her bed. I climbed on her back and had a snack. Yukari's back shook up and down. "I can't do it," she said. Her voice shook too.

That night, I couldn't stop worrying about Yukari. I ran on my Whiz Wheel and worried and worried and worried and worried and worried.

Yukari was crying.



"You're going to wake up Papa!"

"You're making too much noise!"

"It's one in the morning, Hamtaro!"

WHIZ

I was so worried, I couldn't fall asleep. Although being a nocturnal animal might have had something to do with it.

What's Yukari so upset about?

Yukari needs me!

Finally, I had an idea. I resolved to follow Yukari to school the next day.

Maybe there I could find out what was upsetting her. Maybe then I could help her.

Oh no!

I woke up with a start. I had fallen asleep! It was already light out! Yukari was gone! If I ran as fast as I could, maybe I could catch up with her.

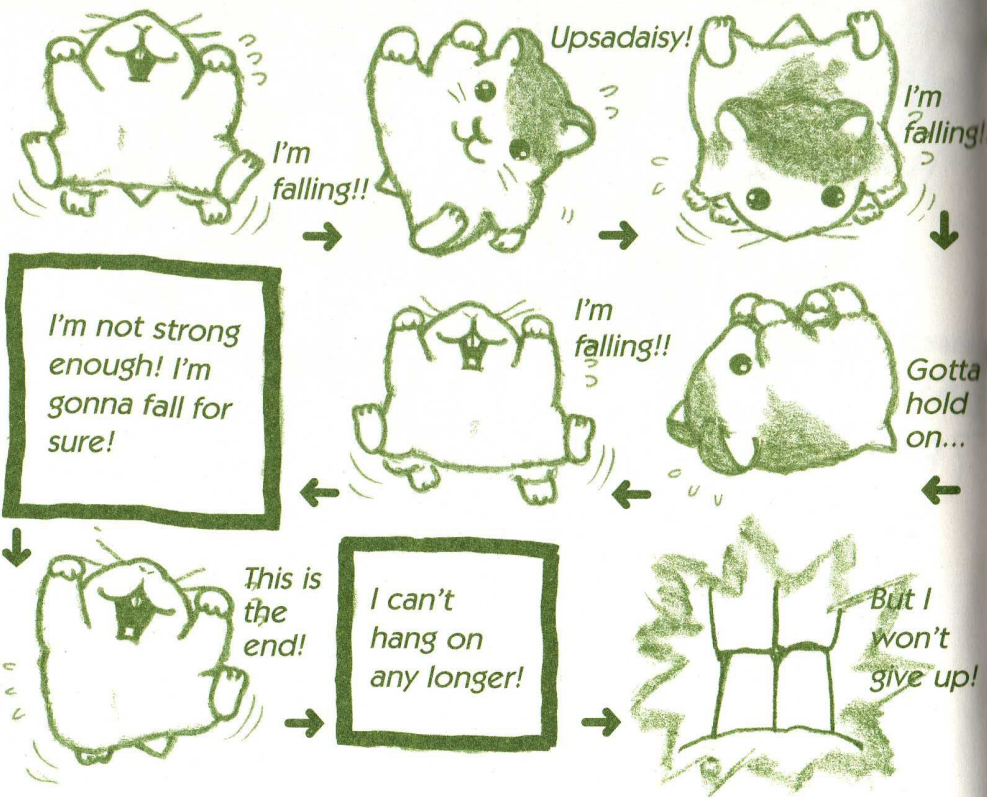


I searched frantically for a way out of my cage, but I couldn't find a hole or a crack or a loose door.

Then I got stuck.



How did I get up here?
Not that figuring that
out will help me now!



I bit down on the wire
with all my might.



YOU CAN
DO IT,
HAMTARO!

I chipped my front tooth a little, but I didn't fall.

Suddenly, I heard Yukari's voice.

She hadn't left for school yet, after all.

She was
watching me
all along.



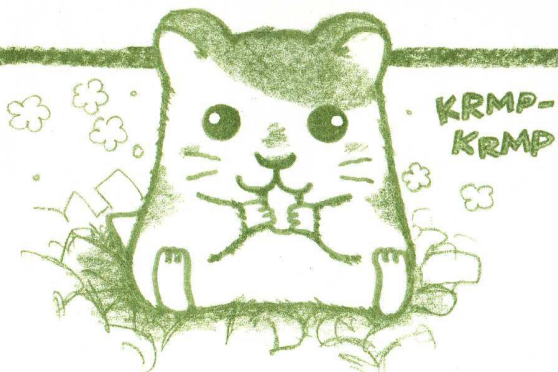
Rescued!



Yukari was in a good mood again. She skipped off to school.

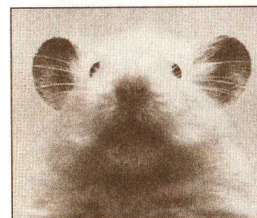
"I'm going to try really hard, just like Hamtaro," she muttered to herself as she went out the door.

Yukari hadn't been able to pull herself up on the steel bars at the school playground. She had been feeling really bad about it.



KRMP-KRMP

My front tooth got a little chipped, but I'm happy because Yukari's happy!



Hamsters' front teeth continue to grow throughout their lives. When they grow too long, it becomes difficult for them to eat, so give them plenty of hard things to chew on.

NOW I'LL SHOW
YOU ONE OF MY
SPECIAL TALENTS.

WATCH CAREFULLY!
READY?
ARE YOU WATCHING?



I LOVE TO CHEW! ♥



Divide and Conquer

One day, just as I was digging into a nice big bowl of snacks, Yukari came home from school.

"Two times two is four.
Two times three is six."

She was chanting strange words.

"Two times two is four." 🎵

I thought she was coming over to play with me. Instead, she grabbed my bowl of snacks and said...

"Two times three is six." 🎵

I had no idea what she was talking about.

"Let's study together ♡, Hamtaro!"



"Six times
two

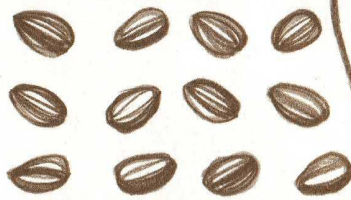
is twelve."



"Four times
three



is twelve."



MORE!
MORE!



MORE!



I don't know what
I did wrong, but
suddenly I was
back in my cage.

"Three times four
is twelve."

"Three times
five is
fifteen."



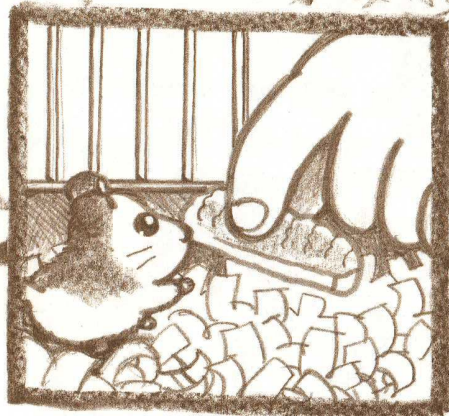
Yukari kept playing with my snacks
and chanting.

No fair, Yukari!

No fair!
No fair!



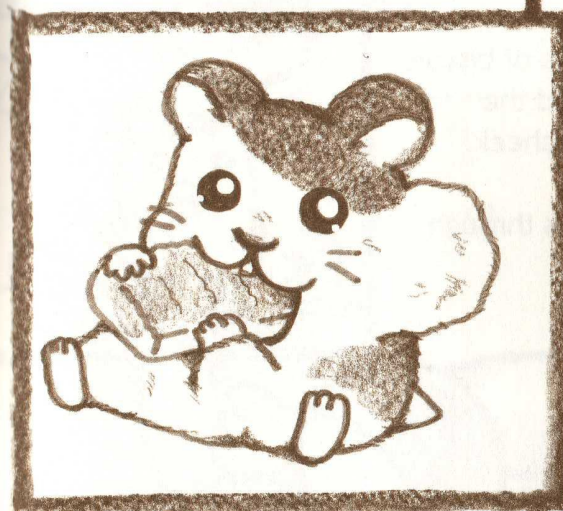
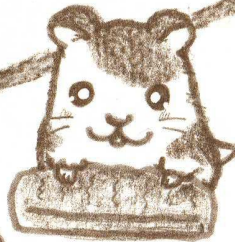
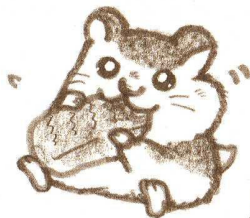
I think she heard me,
because, for the first
time in my life, I got
a hamster biscuit.



I COULD
GET USED
TO THIS!



I decided to hide my
biscuit in my house
right away. It wasn't
easy to carry.



The biscuit was very long.

A TIGHT
FIT...



Ten in my right
cheek and ten
in my left cheek...if
this was a bunch of
sunflower seeds, it would
be easy to carry.

I've got an idea!!



PACKA- PACKA-
PACKA-
PACKA-

I stuffed half the pieces of biscuit into my right cheek and the other half into my left cheek.

Now I could fit all of us through my doorway!



NOW I'LL SHOW YOU ONE OF MY SPECIAL TRICKS. WATCH CLOSELY! IF YOU DON'T LOOK NOW, YOU'LL MISS IT!



Hamsters store food in their cheeks, which are like stretchy bags. Before eating the stored food, hamsters take it out of their cheeks.



I LOVE SUNFLOWER SEEDS! ♥

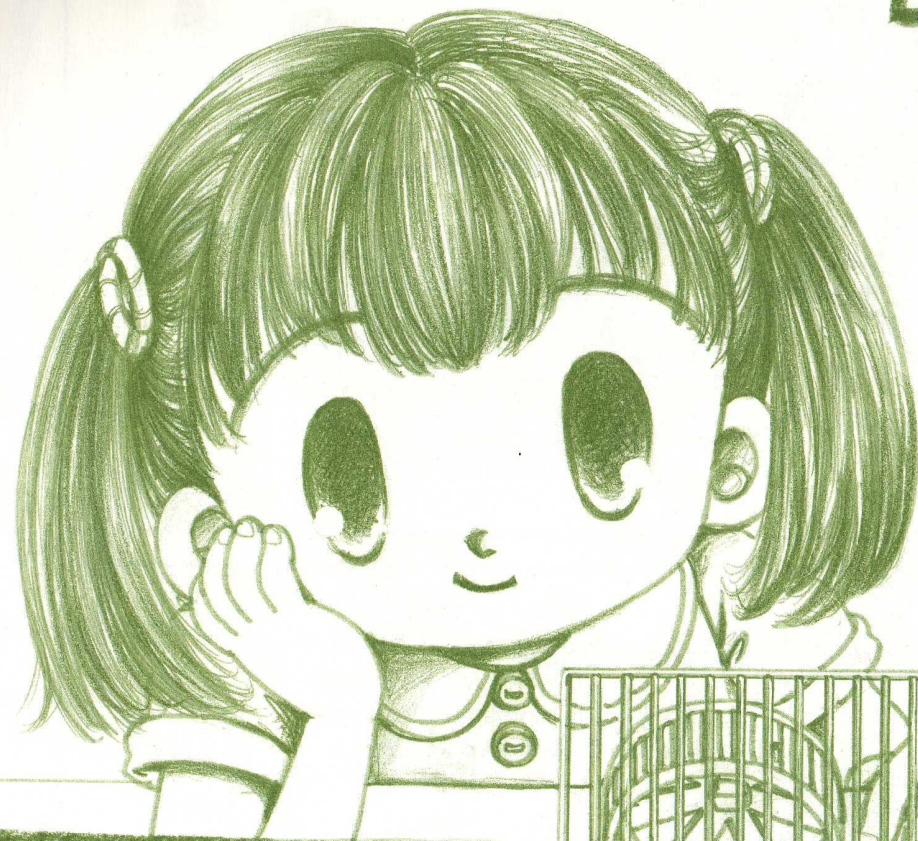
"Two times three is six."
"Two times four is eight."

Yukari didn't notice how good I am at dividing things.

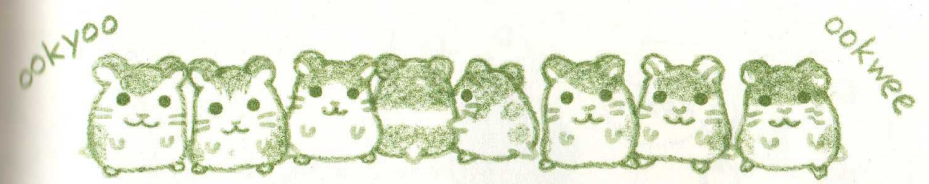
I am one talented hamster!



Nothing Lasts Forever



I was born with seven brothers and sisters.



We were always fighting over food.



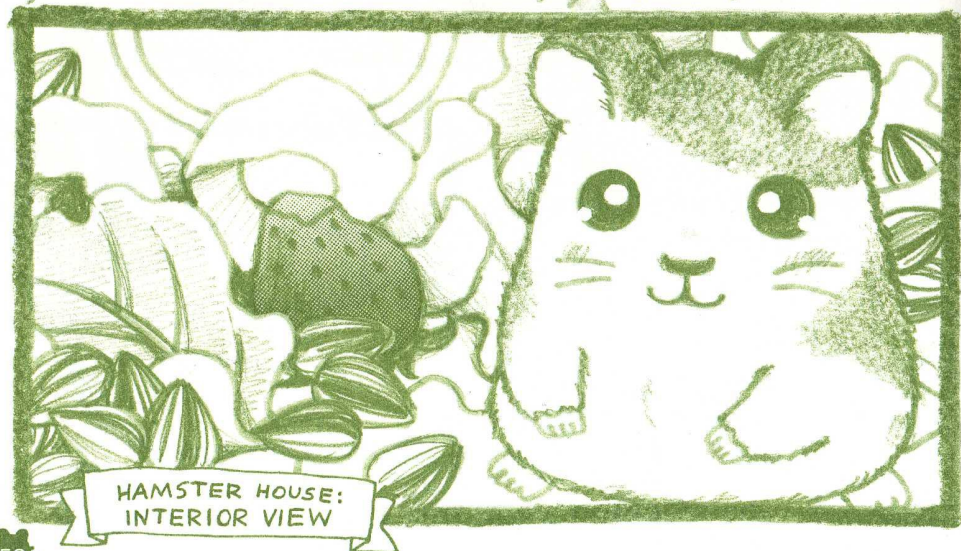
When I grew up, I moved to Yukari's house.

Now I live alone in my own cage.

Every day, I get more food than I can eat.

Nobody swipes it from me. Still...

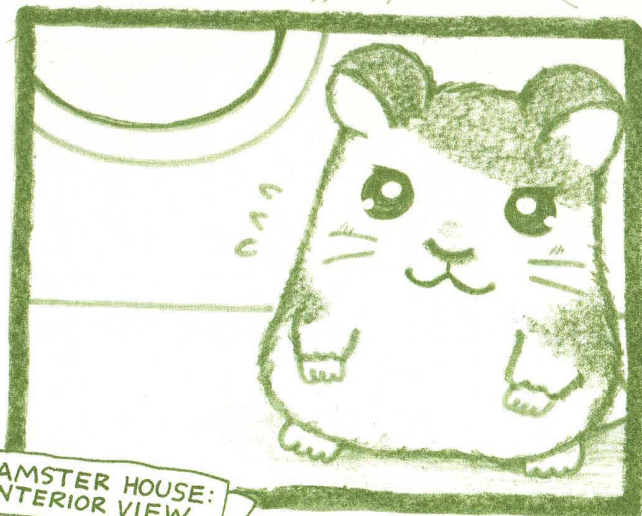




After I played for a while,
Yukari put me back in
my cage.

Something was
terribly wrong!

ALL
GONE!!



HAMSTER HOUSE:
INTERIOR VIEW

All my smells
were gone!
And so were
all my snacks!

Where were all my things?

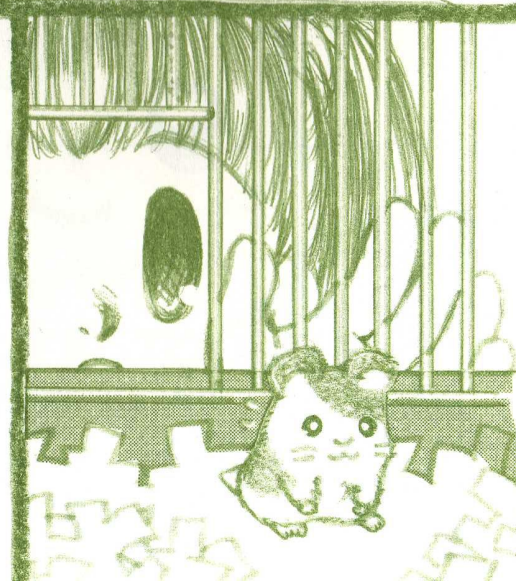
I had lost everything. And then
I lost my temper!

CHOMP

"Ow!" yelped
Yukari. Her voice
brought me back
to myself.

I didn't meant to hurt her.

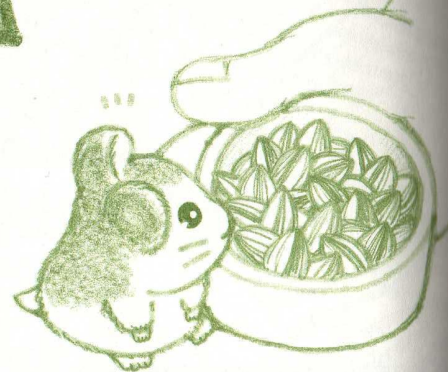
Now I understand why Yukari
cleaned up my cage.





After a while, the pieces of cabbage and fruit and half-eaten sunflower seeds I store in my house start to rot.

So Yukari cleans up for me. I'm grateful. But I can't stop hoarding food. I am a hamster, after all!



I love to hoard things!

NOW I'LL TELL YOU
ONE OF MY SECRETS.
PAY ATTENTION!
IF YOU DON'T,
I'LL GET MAD!



Hamsters love to eat cheese, cabbage, and fruit. They hold their food up to their mouths with their forelegs as they eat.



I LOVE TO EAT!

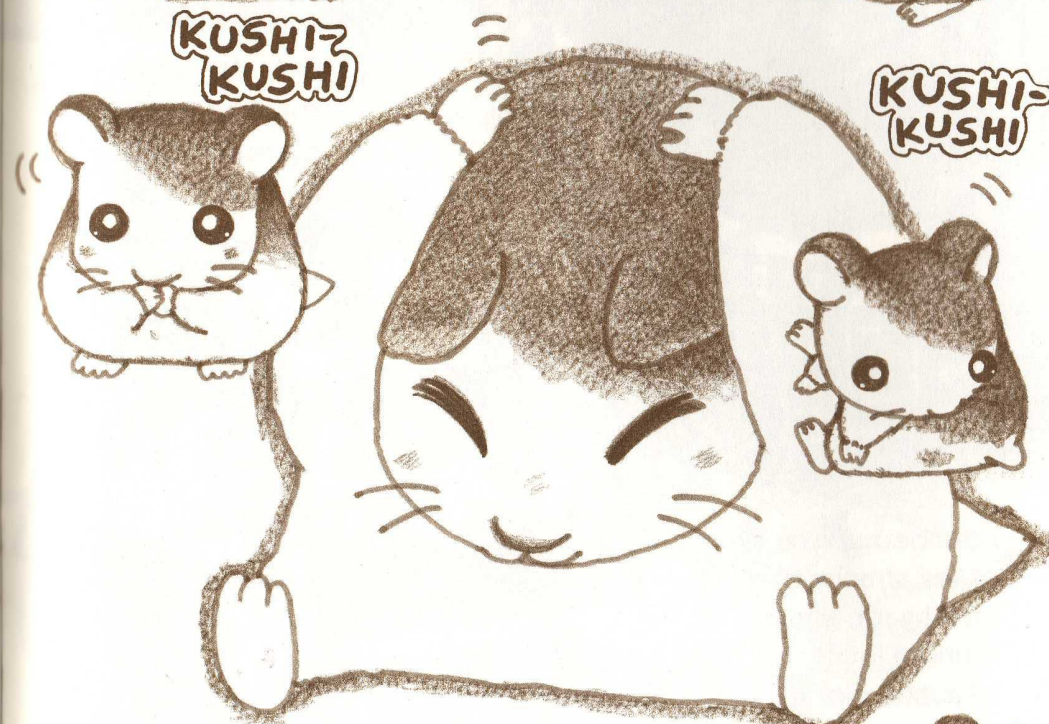
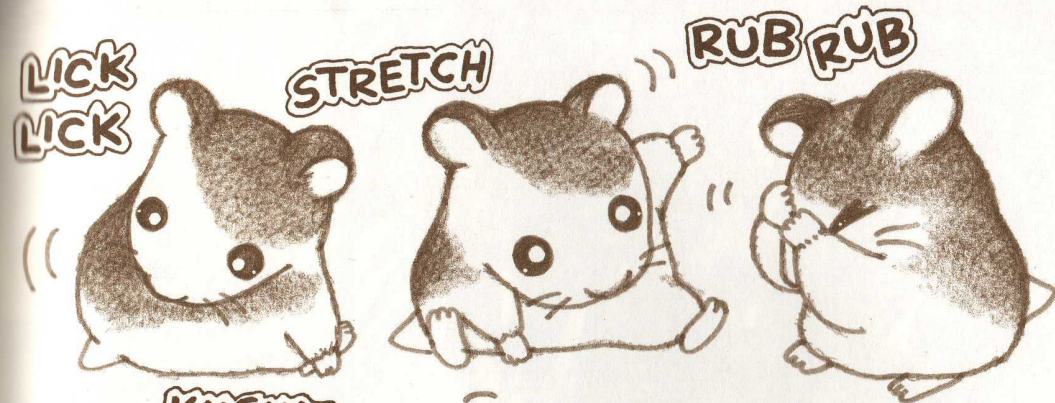


Diggi-Duggi Fun

Yukari takes a bath every day. She washes herself with soap and water. Does that make her clean? I've never tried it myself, so I wouldn't know. But...



...I am one
clean hamster!



That's because
I groom my fur
every day.





One day, when I
sneaked out of my
place to go for a
little walk, I saw
something strange.

I climbed up the side
of the strange thing to
investigate. Inside, I
found a lot of
beautiful dirt!

HIF-
HIF

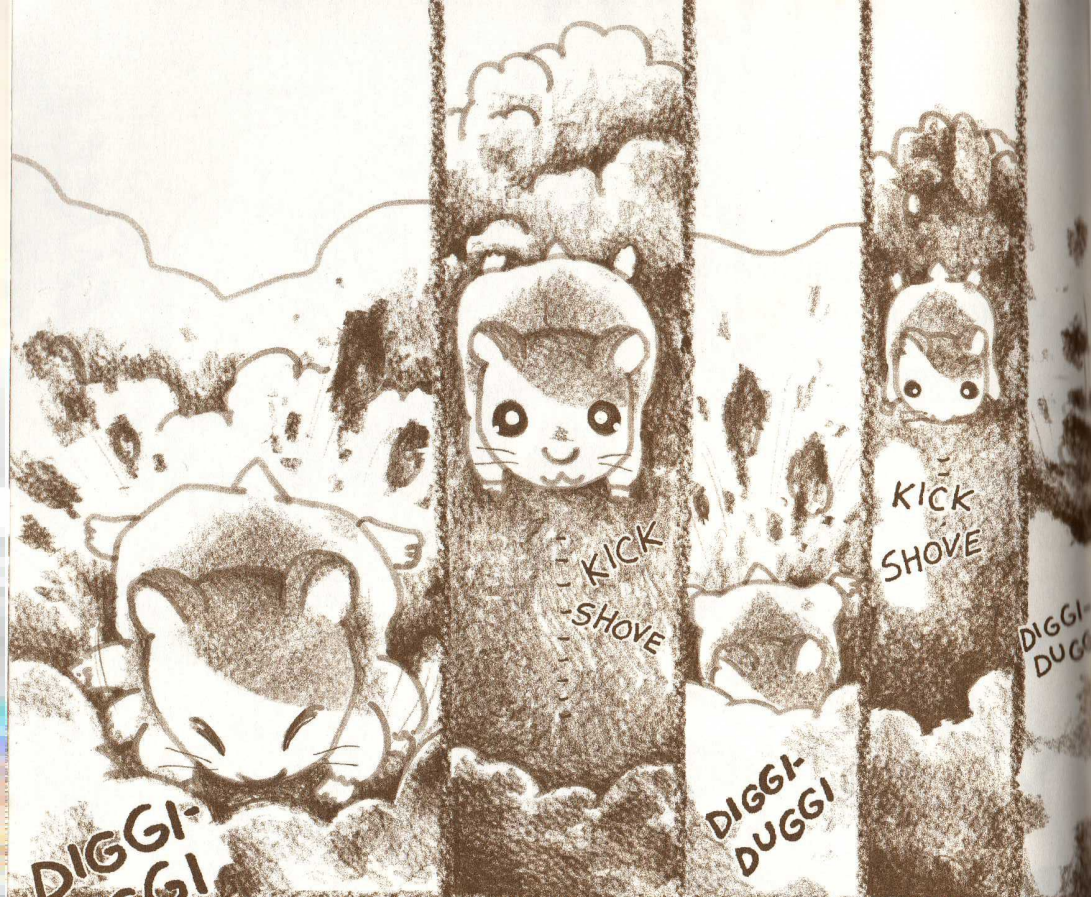
HIF-
HIF

I started digging right away.
What fun!

DIGG!
DUGG!

DIGG!
DUGG!

Hamsters are very
good diggers.

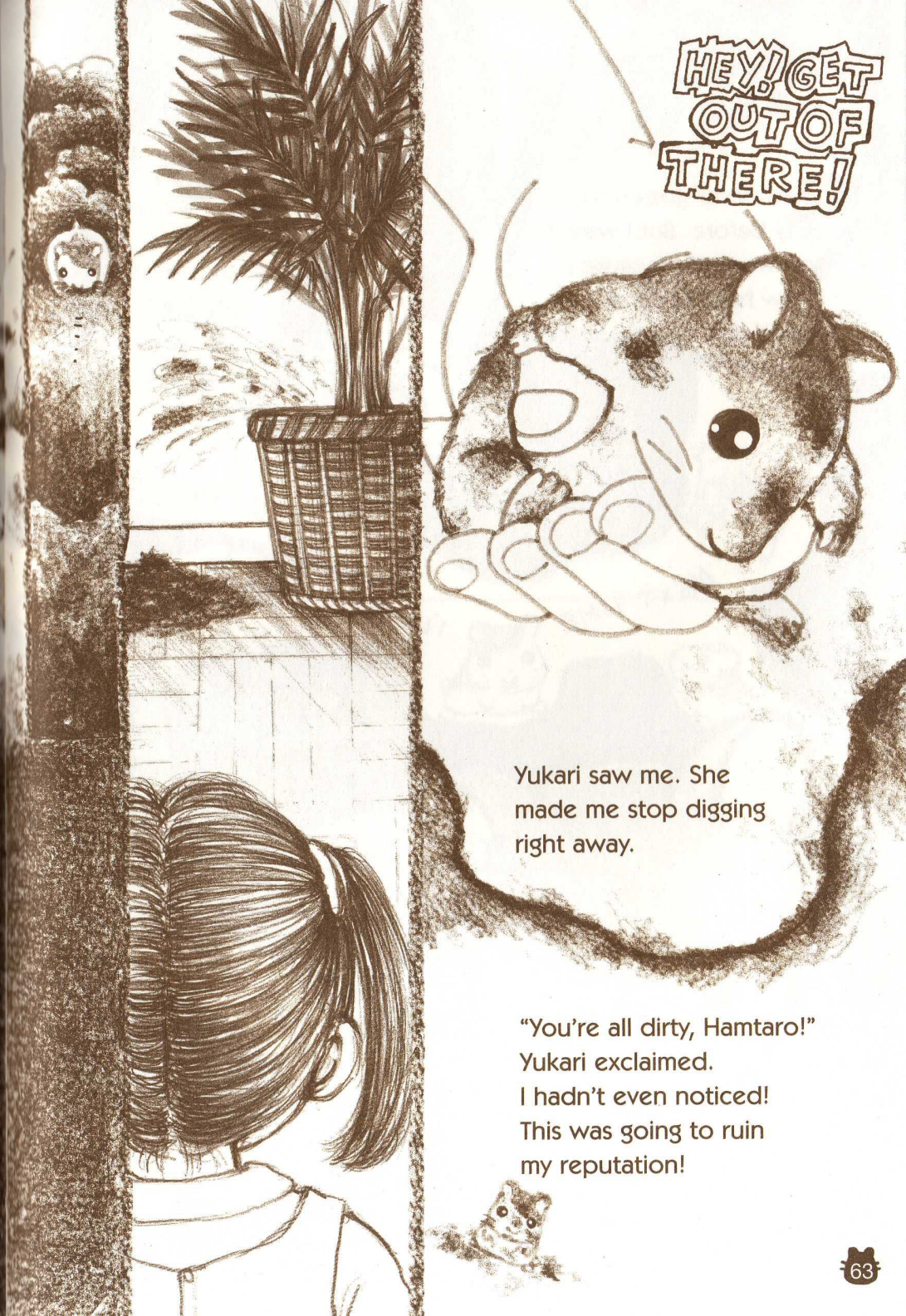


DIGGI DUGGI

I dug up the dirt with my forepaws and then I pushed it out with my back feet.

I dug and pushed and dug and pushed until I made a tunnel.

I'm going to make a secret hideout at the end of my tunnel!



HEY! GET OUT OF THERE!

Yukari saw me. She made me stop digging right away.

"You're all dirty, Hamtaro!" Yukari exclaimed. I hadn't even noticed! This was going to ruin my reputation!

I had never gotten so dirty before. But I wasn't too worried. Because I know how to clean myself up!

Digging tunnels is so much fun!

NEXT TIME

I'LL DIG

AND DIG AND DIG

It's only natural to get dirty when you play.

UNTIL I MAKE

A SECRET HIDEOUT!

KUSHI-KUSHI

NOW I'LL SHOW YOU
ANOTHER ONE OF
MY HIDDEN TALENTS.
WATCH CLOSELY!



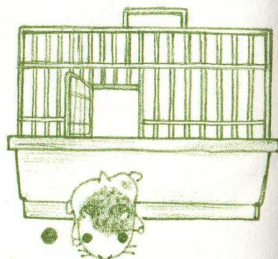
Wild hamsters live in burrows they dig in the ground. They keep their food supply and their bathroom separate, connected by a tunnel.

I LOVE TO HIDE! ♥

Hamtaro's Great Adventure

Every time I step outside my cage, it's the beginning of a great adventure!

I've met with terrible danger many times, but I always make it home safely.



That's because I'm one tough hamster!

WELL, HERE GOES.

I'M OFF.

WASA-WASA

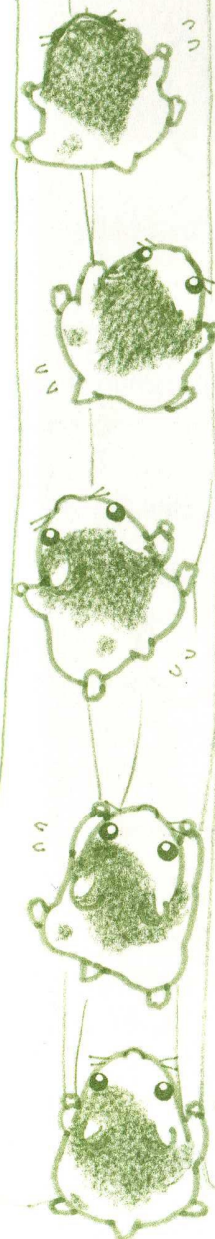
TIME FOR A LITTLE REST.

READY? SET?

GO!



Going up!



What a great hiding place!

One day, I dug my claws into Yukari's curtain and climbed all the way to the top.

HAMTARO! WHERE ARE YOU?

TIME FOR A LITTLE REST AGAIN.



KUSHI-KUSHI



READY? SET?



GO!





The trip down was scary.



It's harder to climb down than it is to climb up.

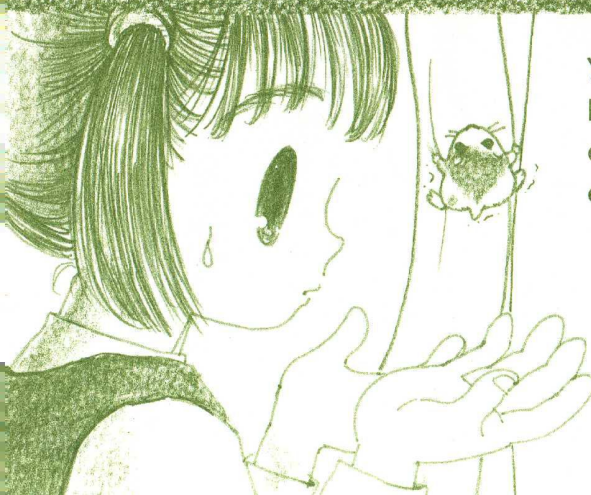


I'm going to fall!

WAGH!



If I do, it's going to hurt! A lot!



Yukari rescued me. It was a little embarrassing. But that didn't stop me from continuing on my adventure!



KUSHI-KUSHI!

Whenever I climb up, I fall down. Happens every time. But that doesn't stop me!

Hey...where am I now?



BOING

BOING

BOING

I jumped as high as I could, but I couldn't get out!

All that exercise made me tired, so I took a nap.

THERE YOU ARE, HAMTARO!

Falling into a wastebasket was a little embarrassing.

But that didn't stop me from continuing on my adventure!

TIME FOR ANOTHER BREAK.

TIME TO MOVE ON AGAIN.

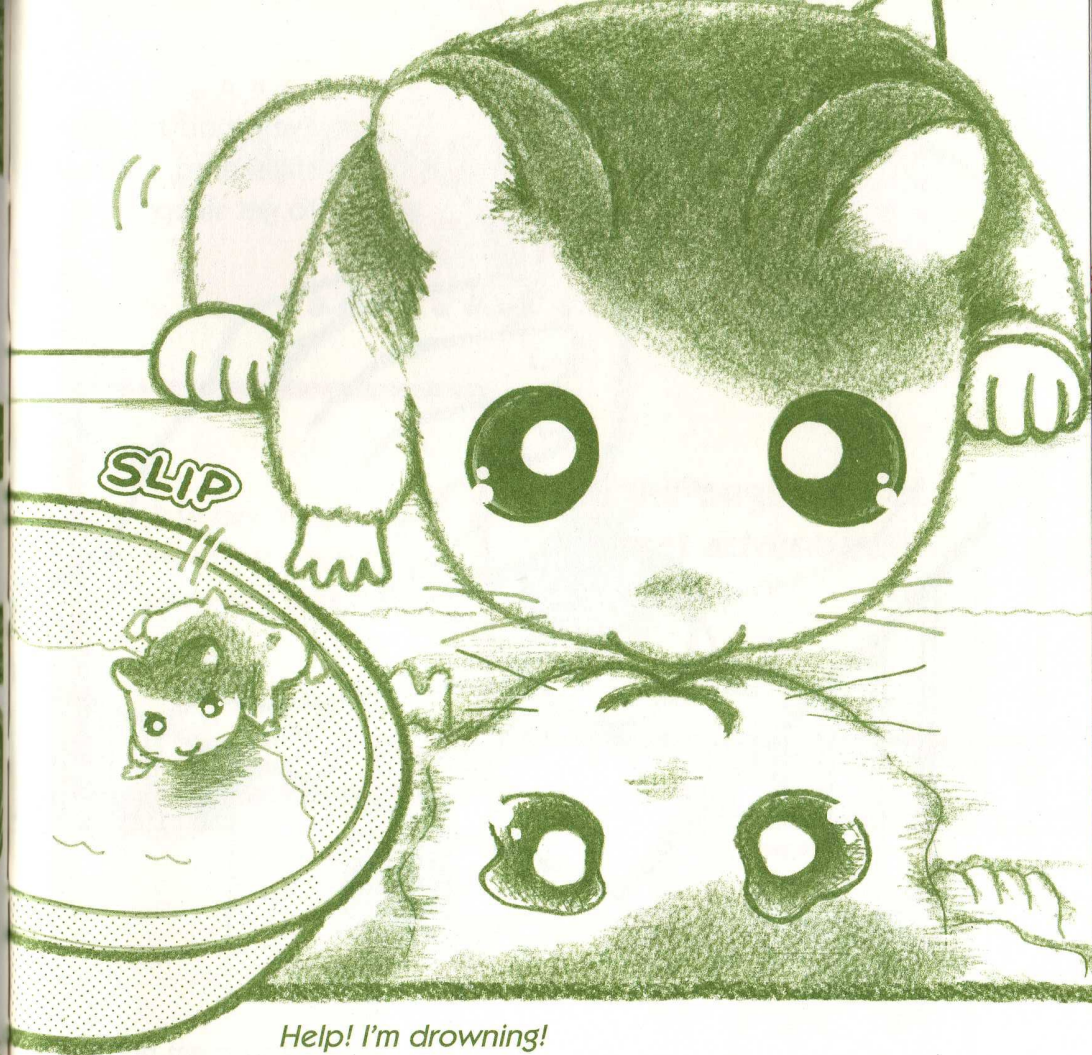
WASA-WASA

I love to tunnel, so I had to explore this strange hole. Deeper and deeper I went....

Dead end!

Tunneling into a dirty sock was a little embarrassing. But then my curiosity got me into really big trouble....

WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THERE, HAMTARO?



Help! I'm drowning!

My feet could touch bottom, but I was still really scared because I can't swim.

Yukari saved me right away, but my fur was soaked through. I couldn't stop shivering.



Yukari dried me
with a towel.

Even though I was
still scared, I started
to get sleepy.



Back in my cage, I
finished the job by
grooming my fur.

I sure am tired!

I can't wait
to go on another
adventure tomorrow!



A Close Call for Hamtaro

One day, Yukari put
me in her pocket
and went outside.

It's the beginning of
a great adventure!!

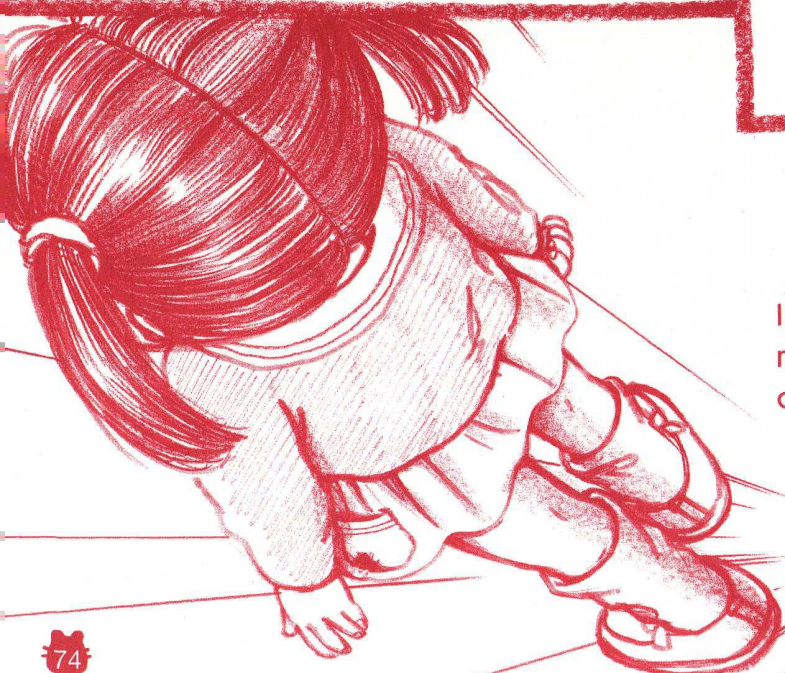




I was so excited
I couldn't sit still!



I accidentally
ripped a hole
in Yukari's
pocket.



I hung on with all
my might, but
down I went.



I ran faster than I ever had before.

For someone as small as me, the outside world is full of danger.

I grabbed onto the first thing I saw. Luckily, it was Yukari's leg.



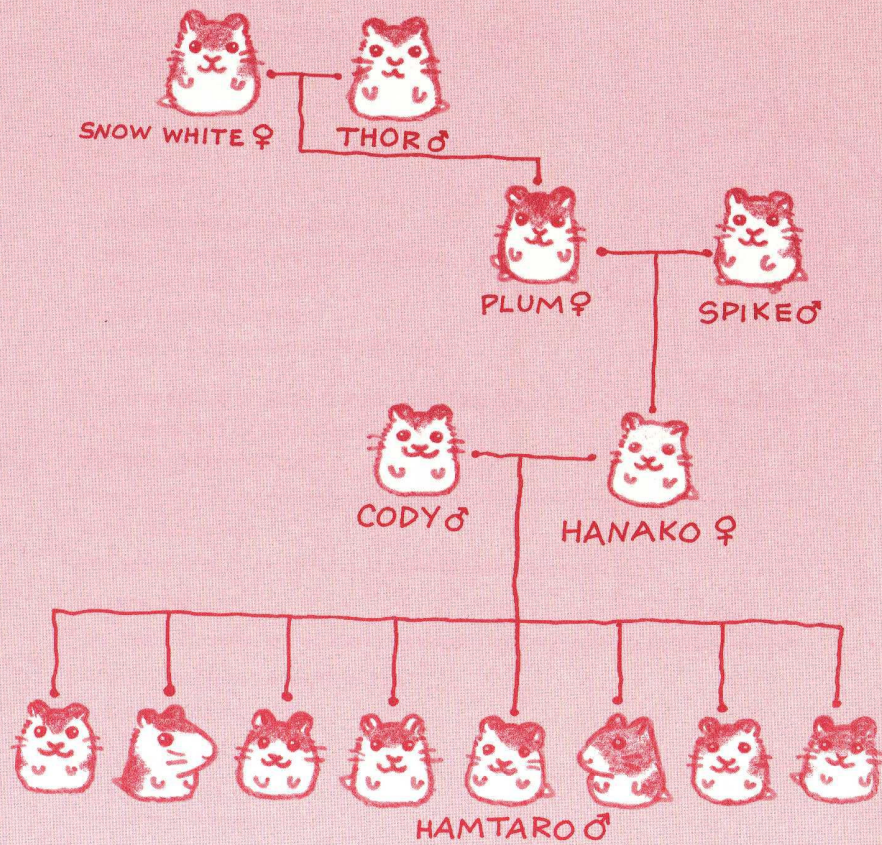
Yukari picked me up in her hands. Saved!
I'm never going to do that again.

I can't wait to have a nice quiet
day in my cage tomorrow!





HAMTARO'S FAMILY TREE



NAME HAMTARO'S
BROTHERS AND
SISTERS YOURSELF!